

### Amendments to the Claims

1. **(Currently Amended)** A recording apparatus comprising:

a continuous recording unit operable to perform continuous recording of and  
~~obtain-broadcast content contents-broadcasted~~ from N hours ago to a current time onto a  
recording medium; and

a receiving unit operable to receive a specification on a period of time within the  
broadcast content;

a setting unit operable to set a protective attribute onto a part of the recording  
medium corresponding to the period of time~~according to a user operation~~, wherein the  
broadcast content is ~~contents are~~ made up of a plurality of video units, the continuous  
recording unit being operable to perform~~performs~~ the continuous recording by (i) receiving  
a broadcast ~~wave~~ to obtain a new video unit, and (ii) overwriting an oldest video unit one of  
among the video units with the new video unit, and the part of the recording medium  
having the protective attribute is protected against the overwriting performed by the  
continuous recording unit; and ~~unit~~

a pointer operable to indicate a location of writing in the recording medium, the  
continuous recording unit being operable to perform the overwriting by (i) writing the new  
video unit to the location of writing indicated by the pointer, and (ii) subsequently adding a  
size of the new video unit to the pointer,

wherein said recording apparatus is operable to protect against overwriting by  
adding an offset to the pointer when the pointer reaches a vicinity of the part having the  
protective attribute such that the pointer skips the part having the protective attribute.

2. **(Canceled)**

3. **(Currently Amended)** The recording apparatus of Claim 1, wherein

the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute stores therein two  
or more video units which represent one of a plurality of broadcast programs that have been  
broadcasted between N hours ago and the current time,

the recording apparatus further comprises a display unit operable to display a

schedule table of the plurality of broadcast programs, and

the period of time is the user operation specifies a period during which the one of  
the plurality of broadcast programs is being broadcasted.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The recording apparatus of Claim 1, wherein

~~the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute corresponds to a period, the period being a part of duration between N hours ago and the current time, and~~  
the specification is made by an operation of inputting ~~user operation is an input of a~~  
starting time and an ending time of the period.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The recording apparatus of Claim 1, wherein

the specification is made by an operation of inputting ~~user operation is an input of a~~  
starting time, and

the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute stores therein two or more video units which correspond to either (a) a predetermined length of time beginning at the starting time or (b) a predetermined length of time into past from the starting time.

6. **(Original)** The recording apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

a loading unit operable to load a portable recording medium; and

a copying unit operable to copy, onto the portable recording medium, the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute.

7. **(Original)** The recording apparatus of Claim 6, wherein

the part of the recording medium keeps having the protective attribute thereon until the part finishes being copied onto the portable recording medium, at which time the protective attribute gets cancelled.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The recording apparatus of Claim 1, wherein

the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute stores therein two or more video units which represent one of a plurality of broadcast programs that have been

broadcasted between N hours ago and the current time,

the recording apparatus further comprises a reproducing unit operable to reproduce each of the video units recorded on the recording medium, and

the setting unit, when each of the plurality of broadcast programs finishes being reproduced, inquires of the user whether or not a period corresponding to each broadcast program should be retained, and

the specification user-operation is an affirmative reply in response to the inquiry.

9. **(Currently Amended)** The recording apparatus of Claim 1, wherein

the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute stores therein two or more video units which represent one of a plurality of broadcast programs that have been broadcasted between N hours ago and the current time,

the recording apparatus further comprises a reproducing unit operable to reproduce each of the video units recorded on the recording medium, and

the specification user-operation indicates that a period corresponding to a broadcast program currently being reproduced should be retained.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-readable program recorded on a computer-readable recording medium which when executed performs steps for a ~~for having a computer execute recording processing, the steps comprising:~~

a continuous recording step of performing continuous recording of and obtaining broadcast content ~~contents~~ broadcasted from N hours ago to a current time onto a recording medium; and

a receiving step of receiving a specification on a period of time within the broadcast content;

a setting step of setting a protective attribute onto a part of the recording medium corresponding to the period of time ~~according to a user operation~~, wherein the broadcast content is ~~contents are~~ made up of a plurality of video units, the continuous recording step performs performing the continuous recording by (i) receiving a broadcast wave to obtain a new video unit, and (ii) overwriting ~~one~~ an oldest video unit of among the video units with the new video unit, and the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute is

protected against the overwriting performed in the continuous recording step; and step.

an operating step of operating a pointer to indicate a location of writing in the recording medium, the continuous recording step performing the overwriting by (i) writing the new video unit to the location of writing indicated by the pointer, and (ii) subsequently adding a size of the new video unit to the pointer,

wherein the protection against the overwriting is made by adding an offset to the pointer when the pointer reaches a vicinity of the part having the protective attribute such that the pointer skips the part having the protective attribute.

11. **(Canceled)**

12. **(Currently Amended)** The computer-readable program of Claim 10, wherein the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute stores therein two or more video units which represent one of a plurality of broadcast programs that have been broadcasted between N hours ago and the current time,

the computer-readable program further comprises a display step of displaying a schedule table of the plurality of broadcast programs, and

the period of time is ~~user operation specifies~~ a period during which the one of the plurality of broadcast programs is being broadcasted.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The computer-readable program of Claim 10, wherein

~~the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute corresponds to a period, the period being a part of duration between N hours ago and the current time, and~~

~~the user operation is an input of~~ specification is made by an operation of inputting a starting time and an ending time of the period.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The computer-readable program of Claim 10, wherein

the specification is made by an operation of inputting ~~user operation is an input of~~ a starting time, and

the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute stores therein two or more video units which correspond to either (a) a predetermined length of time

beginning at the starting time or (b) a predetermined length of time into past from the starting time.

15. **(Original)** The computer-readable program of Claim 10, further comprising:  
a loading step of loading a portable recording medium; and  
a copying step of copying, onto the portable recording medium, the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute.

16. **(Original)** The computer-readable program of Claim 15, wherein  
the part of the recording medium keeps having the protective attribute thereon until the part finishes being copied onto the portable recording medium, at which time the protective attribute gets cancelled.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The computer-readable program of Claim 10, wherein  
the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute stores therein two or more video units which represent one of a plurality of broadcast programs that have been broadcasted between N hours ago and the current time,  
the computer-readable program further comprises a reproducing step of reproducing each of the video units recorded on the recording medium, and  
the setting step, when each of the plurality of broadcast programs finishes being reproduced, inquires of the user whether or not a period corresponding to each broadcast program should be retained, and  
the specification ~~user operation~~ is an affirmative reply in response to the inquiry.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The computer-readable program of Claim 10, wherein  
the part of the recording medium having the protective attribute stores therein two or more video units which represent one of a plurality of broadcast programs that have been broadcasted between N hours ago and the current time,  
the computer-readable program further comprises a reproducing step of reproducing each of the video units recorded on the recording medium, and  
the specification ~~user operation~~ indicates that a period corresponding to a broadcast

program currently being reproduced should be retained.